

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A channel selection device used in a digital/analog broadcasting receiver comprising:

a receiver for receiving an encoded digital/analog broadcasting signal originated from a broadcasting station;

a digital/analog decoder for decoding the digital/analog broadcasting signal received from the receiver and then outputting the signal to a display device for displaying an image;

a memory for storing, as a channel map, channel information contained in the broadcasting signal decoded by the digital decoder;

a control unit for controlling each section of the receiver; and

an input device for inputting a user's instruction for channel selection to the control unit,

wherein the device receives a digital broadcast and an analog broadcast which are originated through different physical channels, the digital broadcasting signal has one or a plurality of sub-channels for originating contents therethrough per one physical channel and also has a VCT (Virtual

Channel Table) containing virtual channel information which provides the sub-channels with a correlation with an analog broadcasting physical channel, and the control unit controls the device such that the receiver receives the broadcasting signal of a selected channel upon reception of the channel selection instruction from the input device, and then the digital decoder decodes the received broadcasting signal, in order to obtain the channel information contained in the decoded broadcasting signal and then store the channel information in the memory,

wherein when the control unit receives the channel changing instruction from the input device for a desired channel, and

(I) when the control unit finds channel information for the desired channel in the memory, the control unit tries to select the channel by referencing the VCT thereof, and

(a) when the desired channel was found, the control unit selects the desired channel, and

(b) when the control unit could not find the desired channel because the channel is not currently being aired and failed in the channel selection, the control unit obtains the latest VCT to thereby select such a channel in the VCT that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same main channel

as the desired channel or such a channel that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same physical channel as the desired channel and,

(II) when the control unit could not find channel information for the desired channel in the memory, the control unit shifts a frequency to search for the physical channel and

(a) references the VCT for channel selection when it could obtain the VCT and,

(b) ~~otherwise,~~ selects such a channel that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same physical channel as the desired channel when it could not obtain the VCT.

2. (Currently Amended) A channel selection device used in a digital/analog broadcasting receiver comprising:

a receiver for receiving an encoded digital/analog broadcasting signal originated from a broadcasting station;

a digital/analog decoder for decoding the digital/analog broadcasting signal received from the receiver and then outputting the signal to a display;

a memory for storing, as a channel map, channel information contained in the broadcasting signal decoded by the digital decoder;

a control unit for controlling the sections of the receiver, and an input device for inputting a user's instruction for channel selection to the control unit,

wherein the device receives a digital broadcast and an analog broadcast which are originated through different physical channels, the digital broadcasting signal has one or a plurality of sub-channels for originating contents therethrough per one physical channel, and also has a VCT (Virtual Channel Table) containing virtual channel information which provides the sub-channels with a correlation with an analog broadcasting physical channel, and the control unit controls the device such that the receiver receives the broadcasting signal of a selected channel upon reception of the channel selection instruction from the input device, and then the digital decoder decodes the received broadcasting signal, in order to obtain the channel information contained in the decoded broadcasting signal and then store the channel information in the memory,

wherein the control unit, upon reception of the channel changing instruction from the input device, tries channel selection based on the channel information stored in the memory and, as a result of the trial, when failed in the channel selection of the desired channel because the desired channel is not currently being aired, selects such a predetermined sub-channel in the same main channel as the desired channel or selects a predetermined sub-channel in the same physical channel as the desired channel, and

wherein when the control unit fails to select the desired channel based on information stored in the memory because the desired channel is not currently being aired, the control unit

(I) obtains the latest VCT and selects such a channel in the VCT that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same main channel as the desired channel; ~~and or~~

(II) ~~to select~~ selects such a channel that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same physical channel as the desired channel when the latest VCT is not obtained.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The digital/analog broadcasting receiver equipped with the channel selection device according to claim 2, for receiving a digital broadcast according to the ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee) standard and an analog broadcast according to the NTSC (National Television Systems Committee) standard.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for channel selection, the method comprising the acts of:

receiving a channel changing instruction;

determining whether a channel corresponding to the channel changing instruction is stored in a memory, wherein a channel is stored in the memory due to a previous selection, by a user, of a main channel corresponding to a main channel of the channel changing instruction; and

when the channel corresponding to the channel changing instruction is not stored in the memory,

selecting a predetermined sub-channel in a same channel as a desired channel, or

selecting a predetermined sub-channel in a same physical channel as the desired channel.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein when the channel corresponding to the channel changing instruction is not stored in the memory, the method comprises the further act of:

obtaining an updated channel table, wherein the predetermined sub-channel is selected based on the updated channel table.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein when the control unit finds channel information for the desired channel in the memory, the control unit tries to select the channel by referencing the VCT thereof, and

(a) when the desired channel was found, the desired channel is selected, and

(b) when the desired channel could not be found because the channel is not currently being aired and failed in the channel selection, the latest VCT is obtained to thereby select such a channel in the VCT that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same main channel as the desired channel or such a channel that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same physical channel as the desired channel.

8. (Currently Amended) The channel selection device of claim 1, wherein the referenced VCT stored in the memory is stored due to a previous selection by a user, of a main channel corresponding to a main channel of the desired channel.

9. (Previously Presented) The channel selection device of claim 2, wherein the referenced VCT stored in the memory is stored due to a previous selection by a user, of a main channel corresponding to a main channel of the desired channel.